



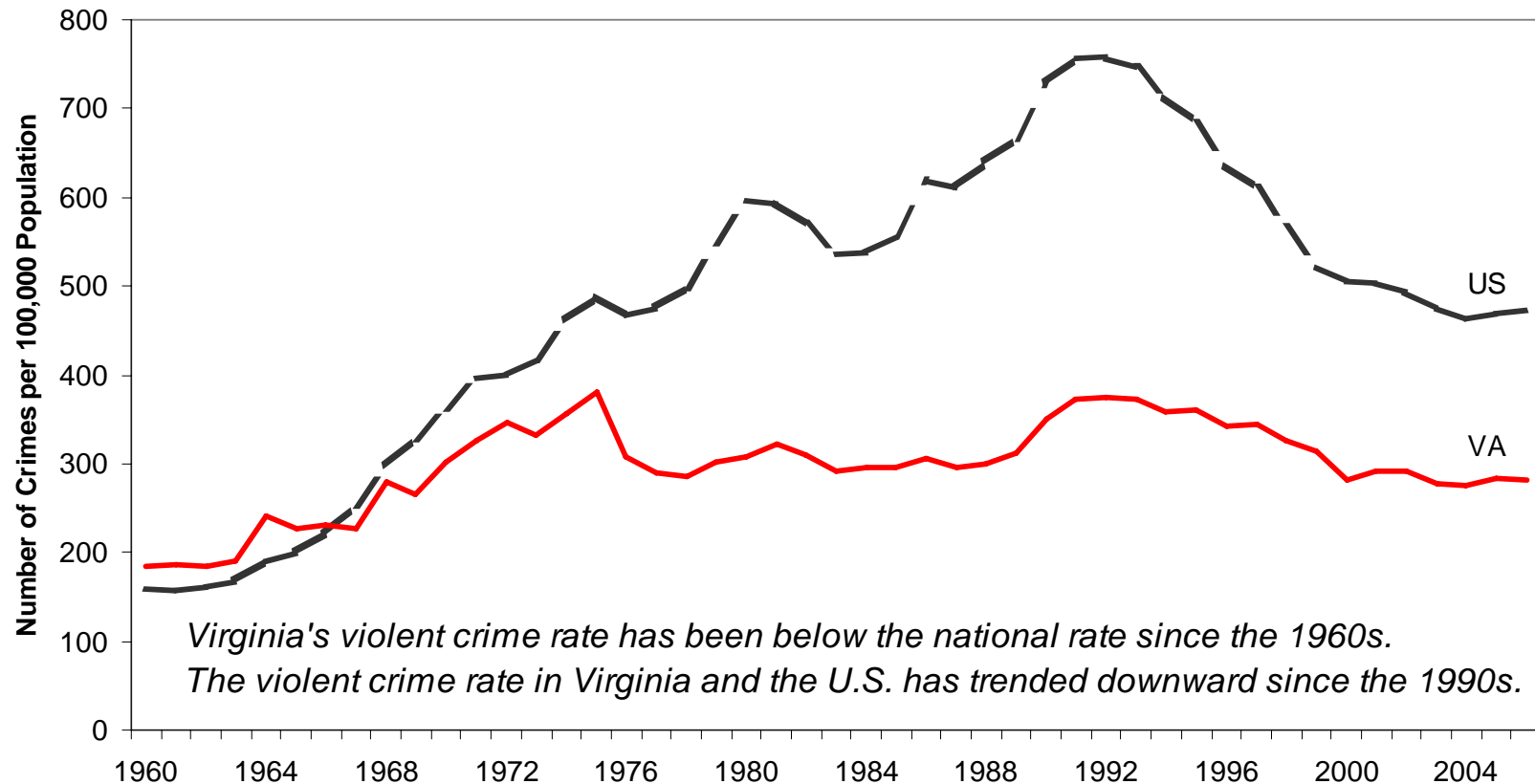
Virginia Crime Trends 1997 - 2006

Department of Criminal Justice Services
Criminal Justice Research Center
September, 2007



A Historical View of Violent Crime

US and VA Violent Index Crime Rates CY 1960-2006

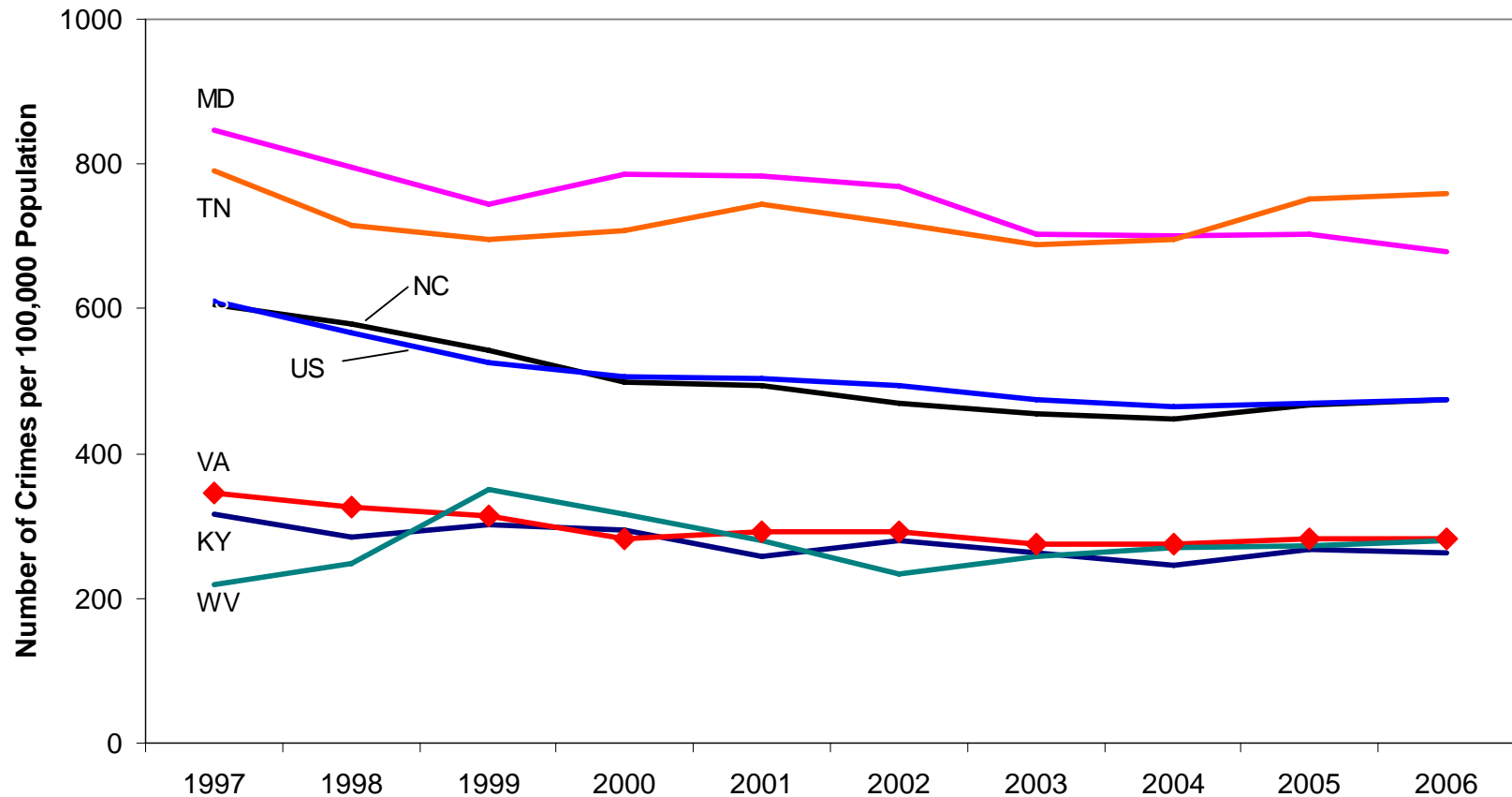


Violent index crimes are murder/non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault



Violent Crime in the Virginia Region

Violent Index Crime Rates for VA & Border States CY 1997 - 2006



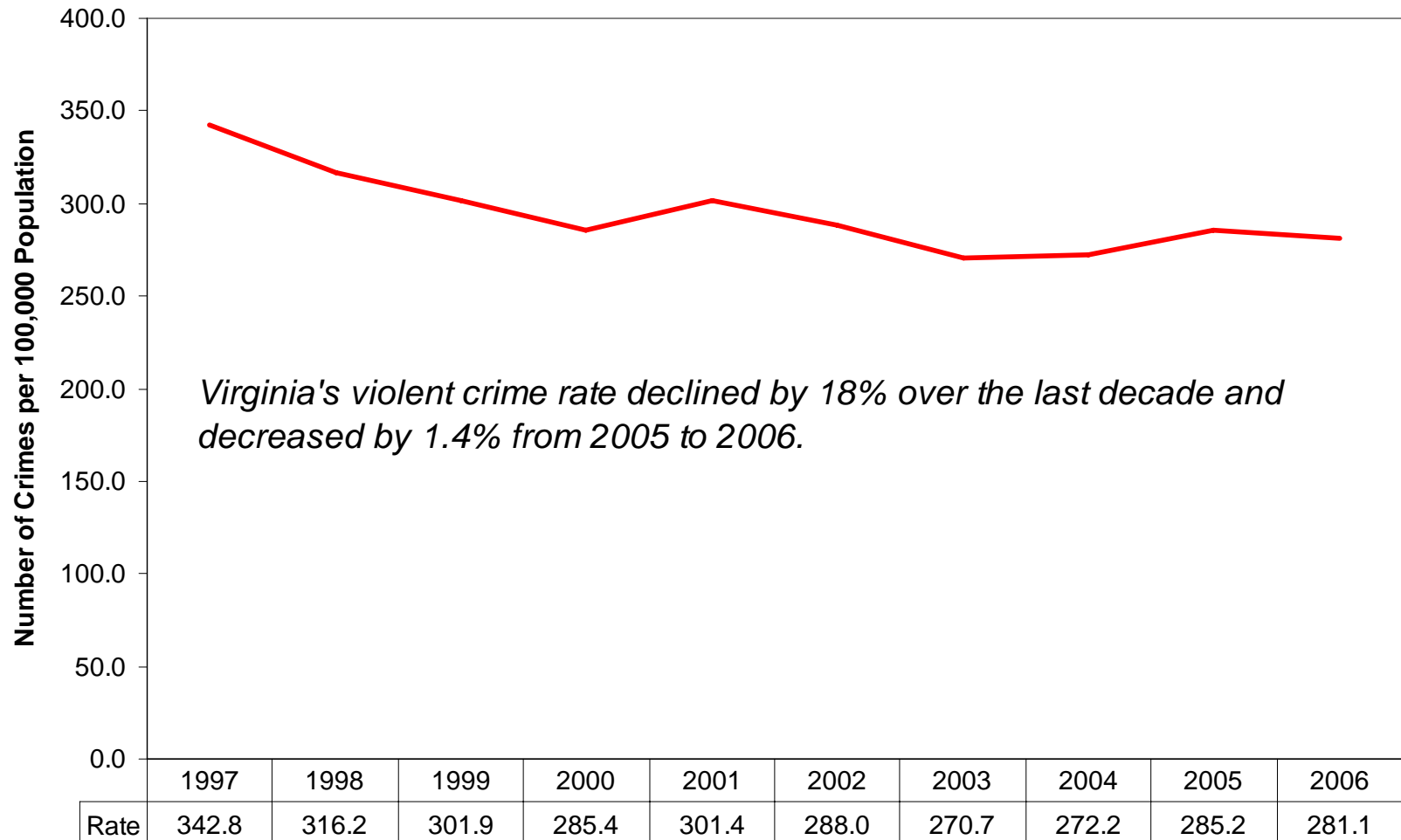
Virginia's violent crime rate was below rates for most border states during the decade.

Only Kentucky and West Virginia have rates lower than Virginia, and this has varied across time.



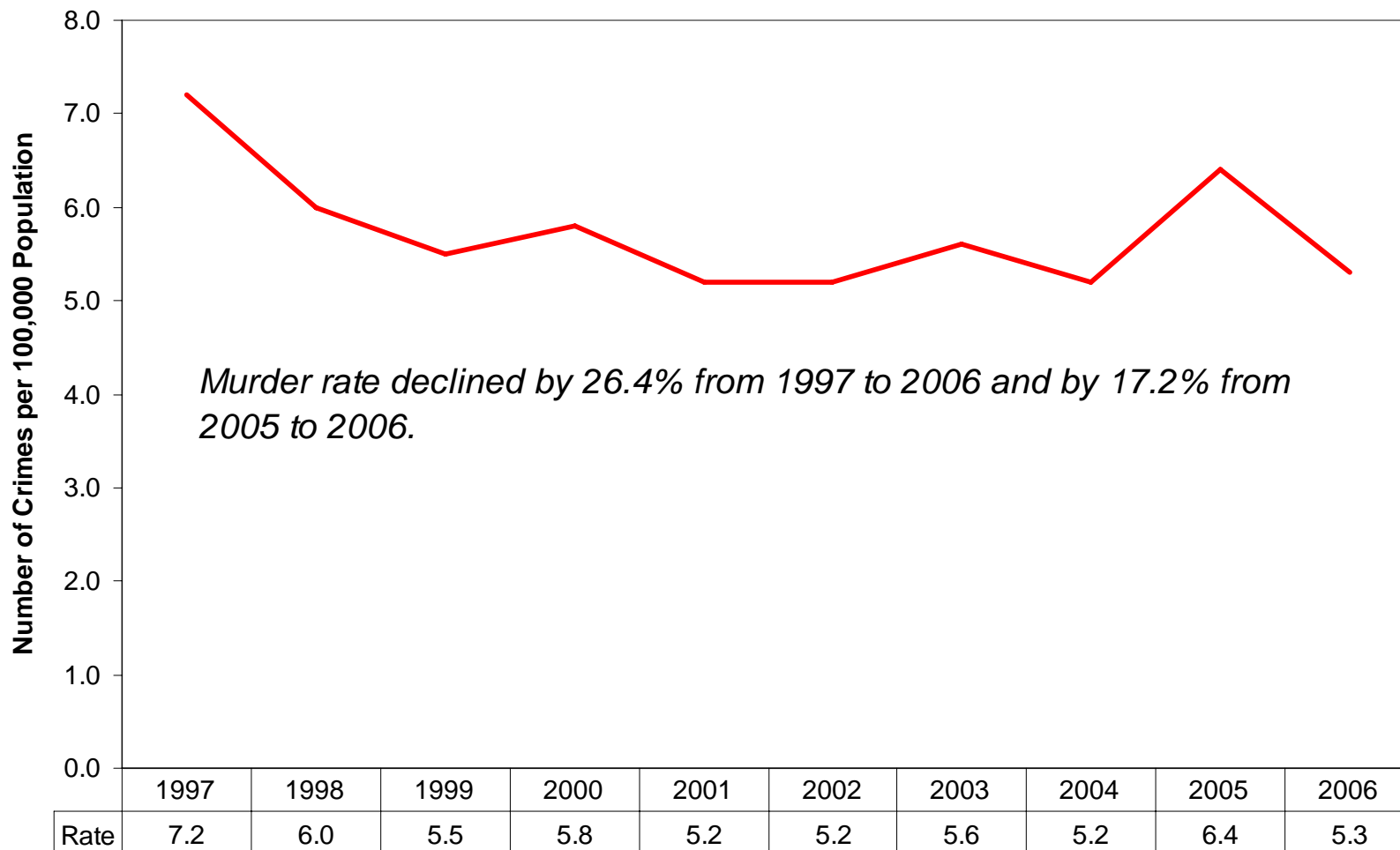
Violent Crime in Virginia

Virginia Violent Index Crime Rate CY 1997 - 2006



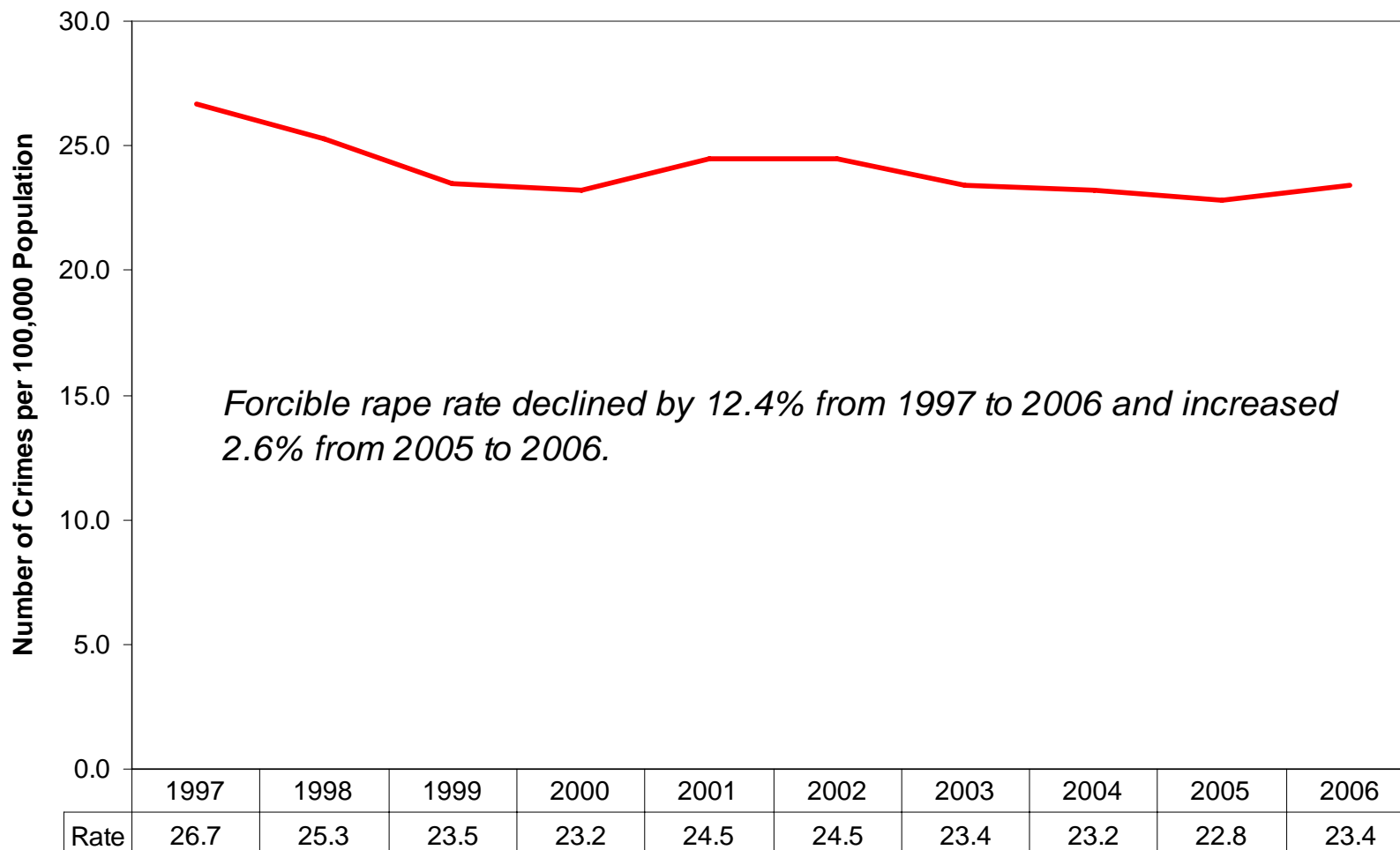
Virginia Murder Rate

CY 1997 - 2006



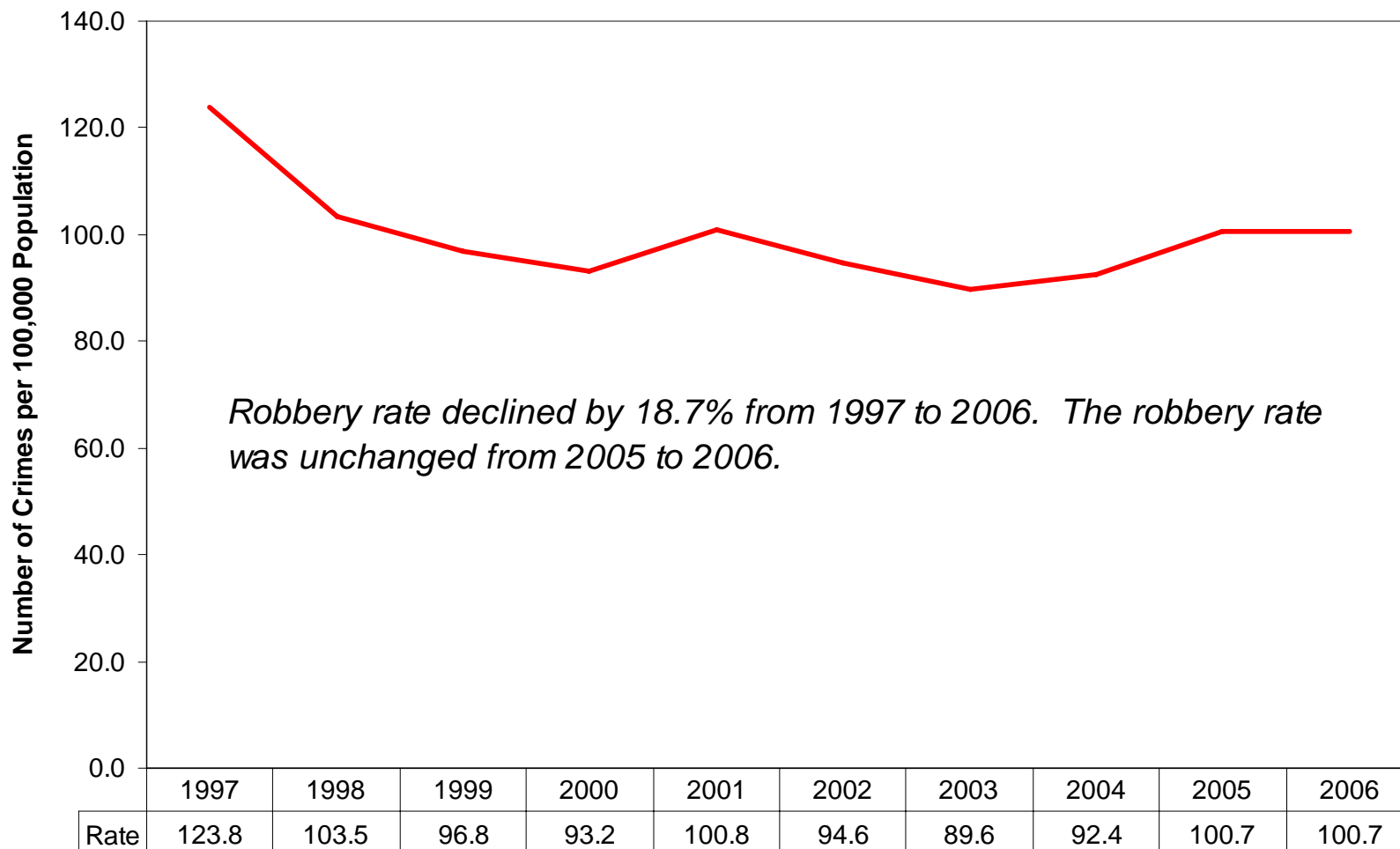
Virginia Forcible Rape Rate

CY 1997 - 2006



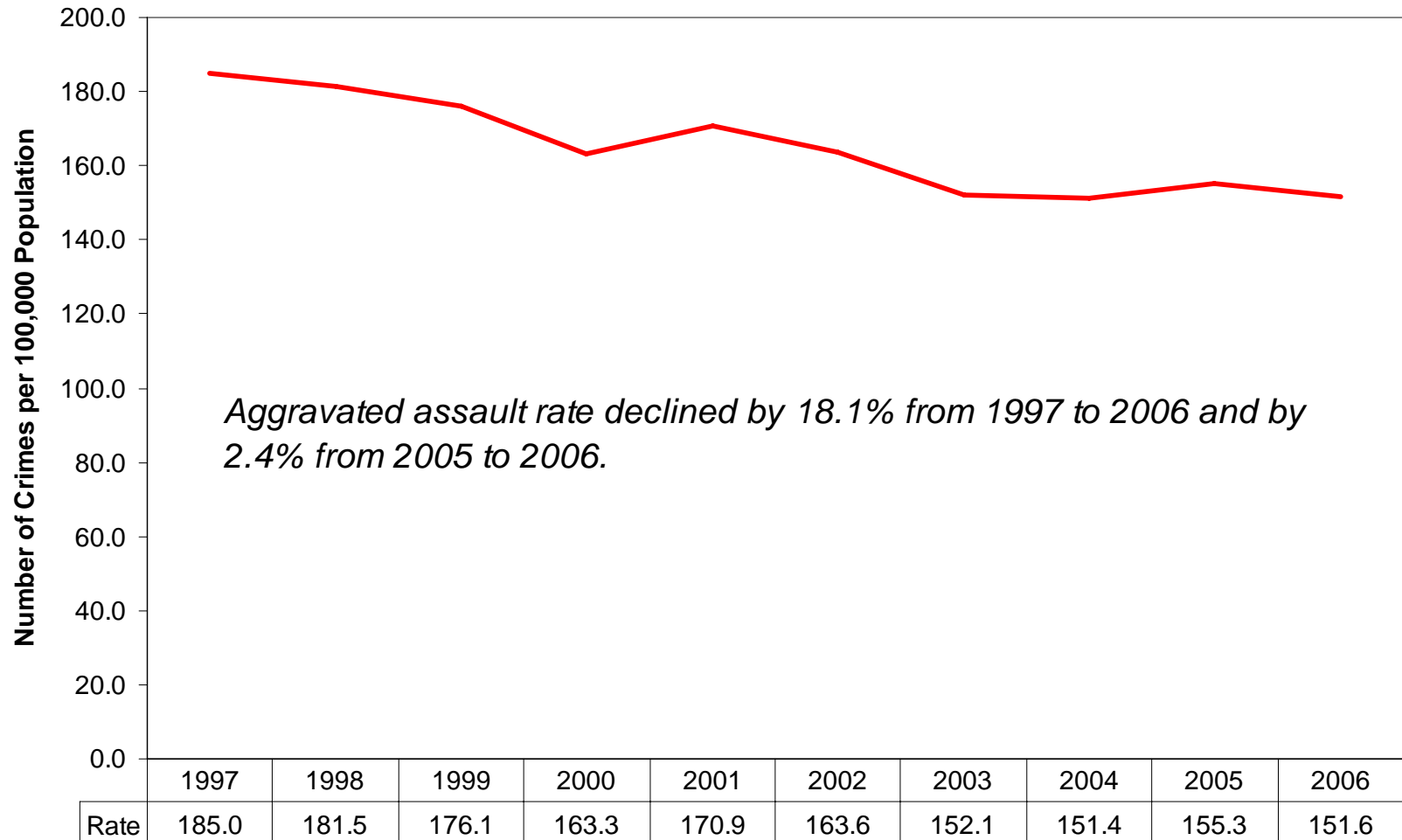
Virginia Robbery Rate

CY 1997 - 2006



Virginia Aggravated Assault Rate

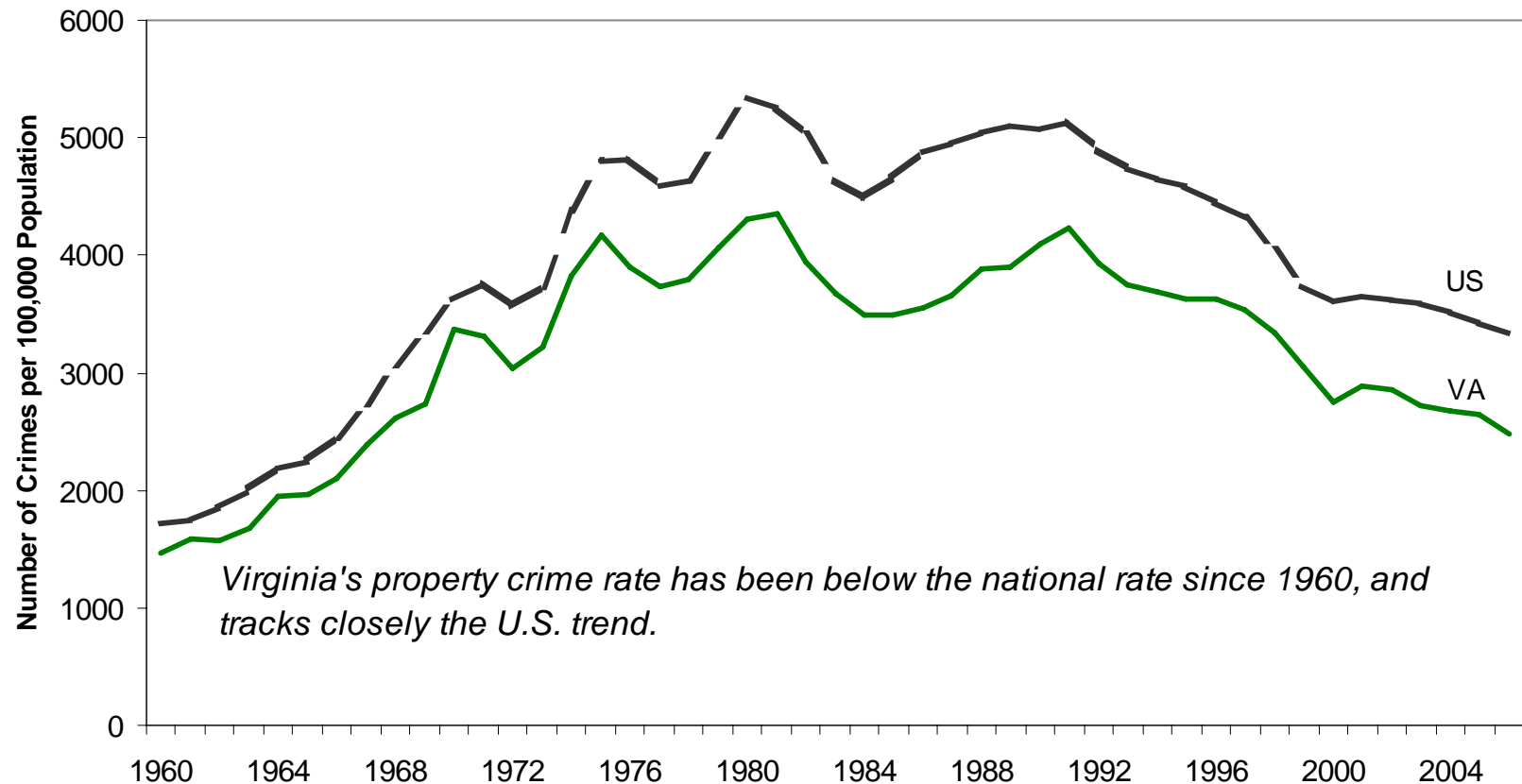
CY 1997 - 2006





A Historical View of Property Crime

US and VA Property Index Crime Rates CY 1960 - 2006

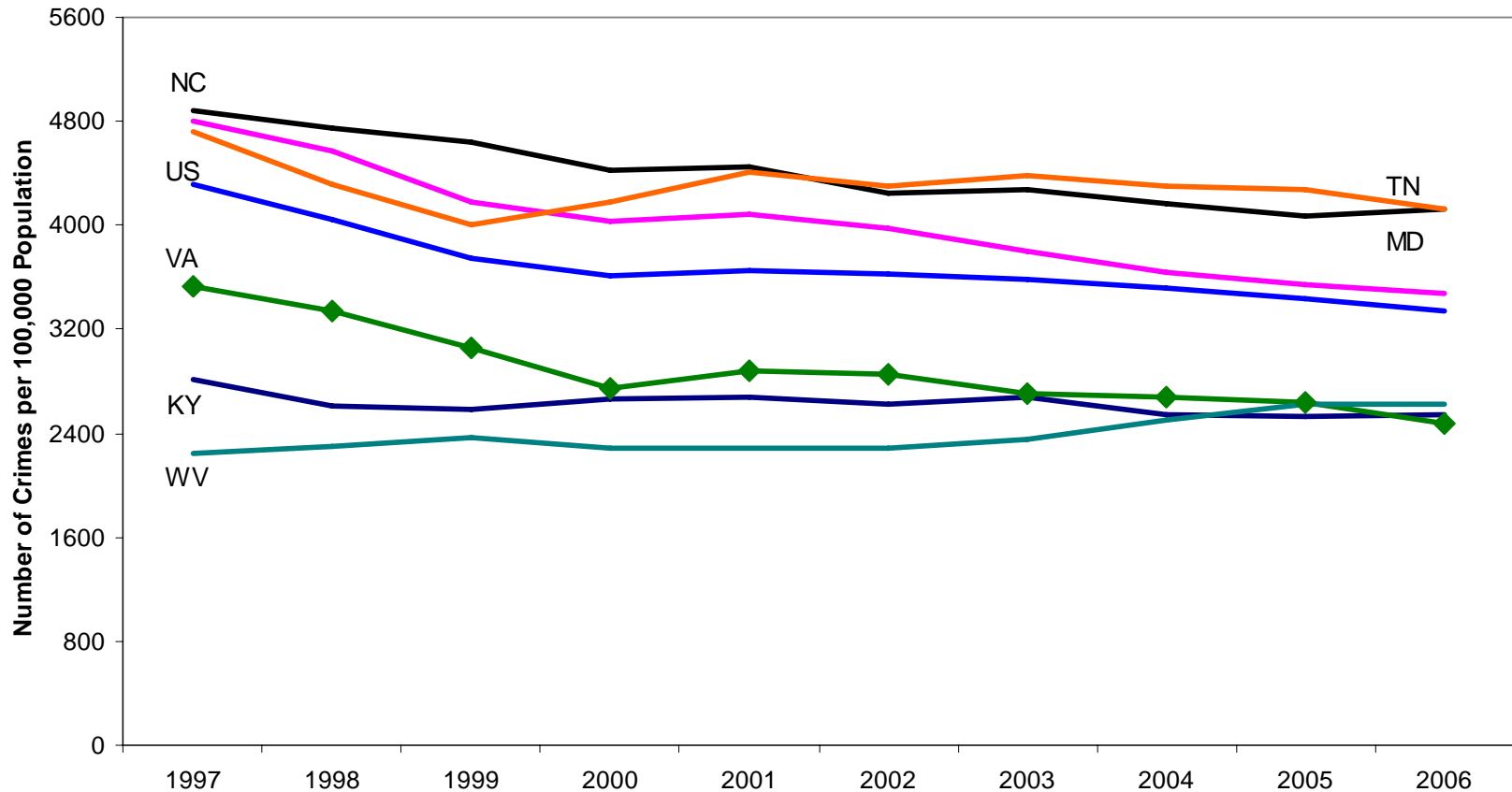


Property index crimes are burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft



Property Crime in the Virginia Region

Property Crime Rates for VA & Border States CY 1997 - 2006



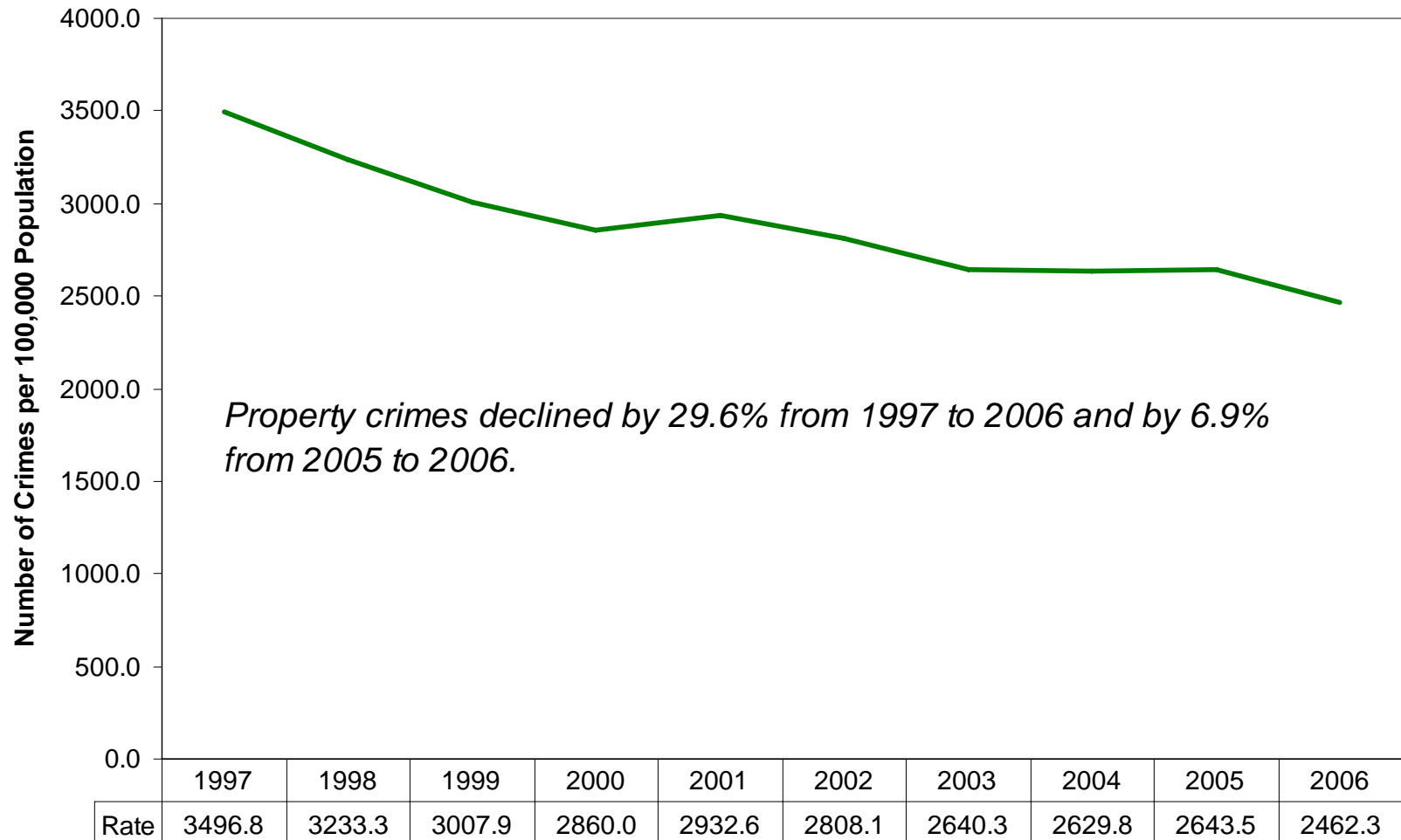
Virginia's property crime rate was below rates for most border states during the decade.

Only Kentucky and West Virginia have rates lower than Virginia, and this has varied across time.



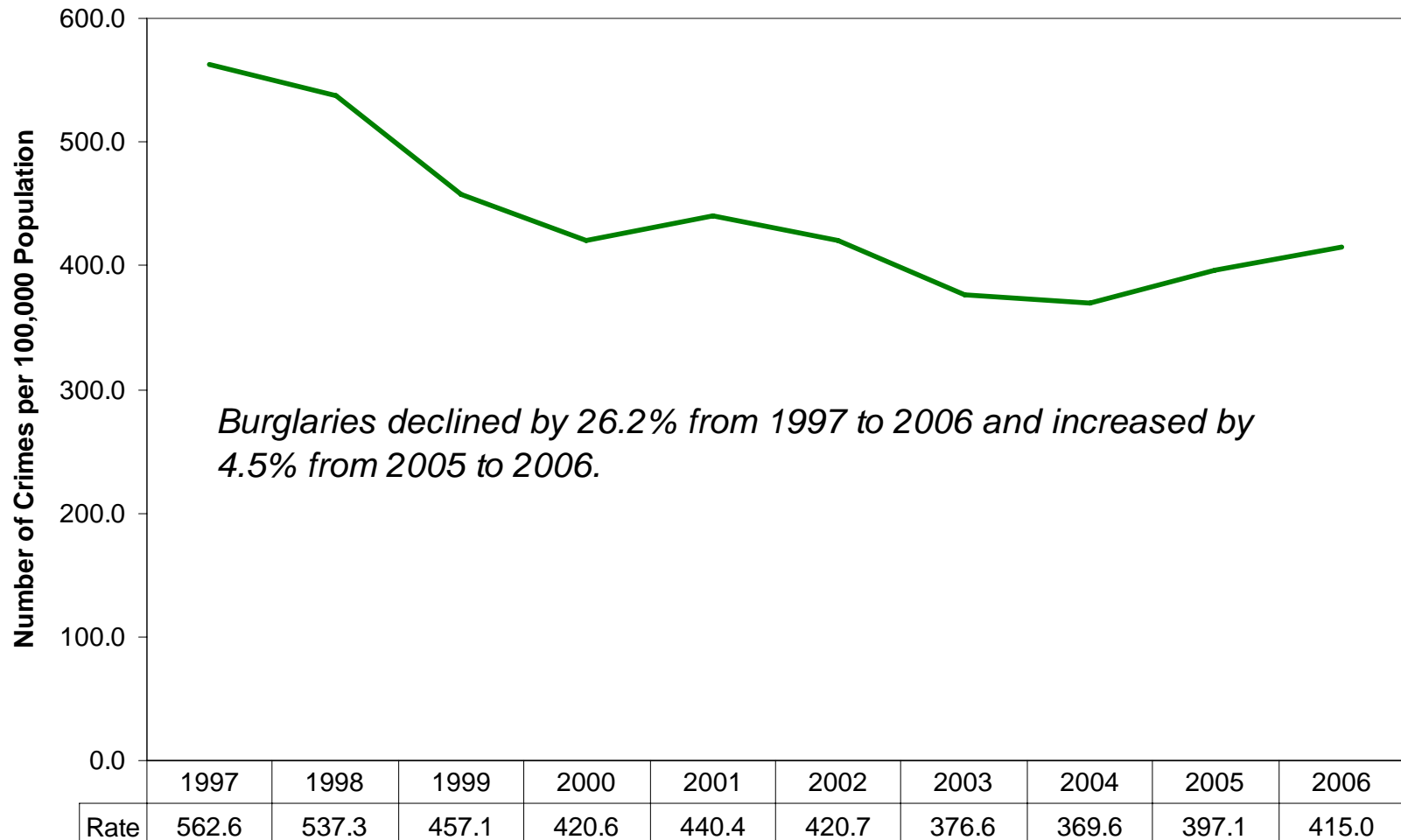
Property Crime in Virginia

Virginia Property Index Crime Rates CY 1997 - 2006



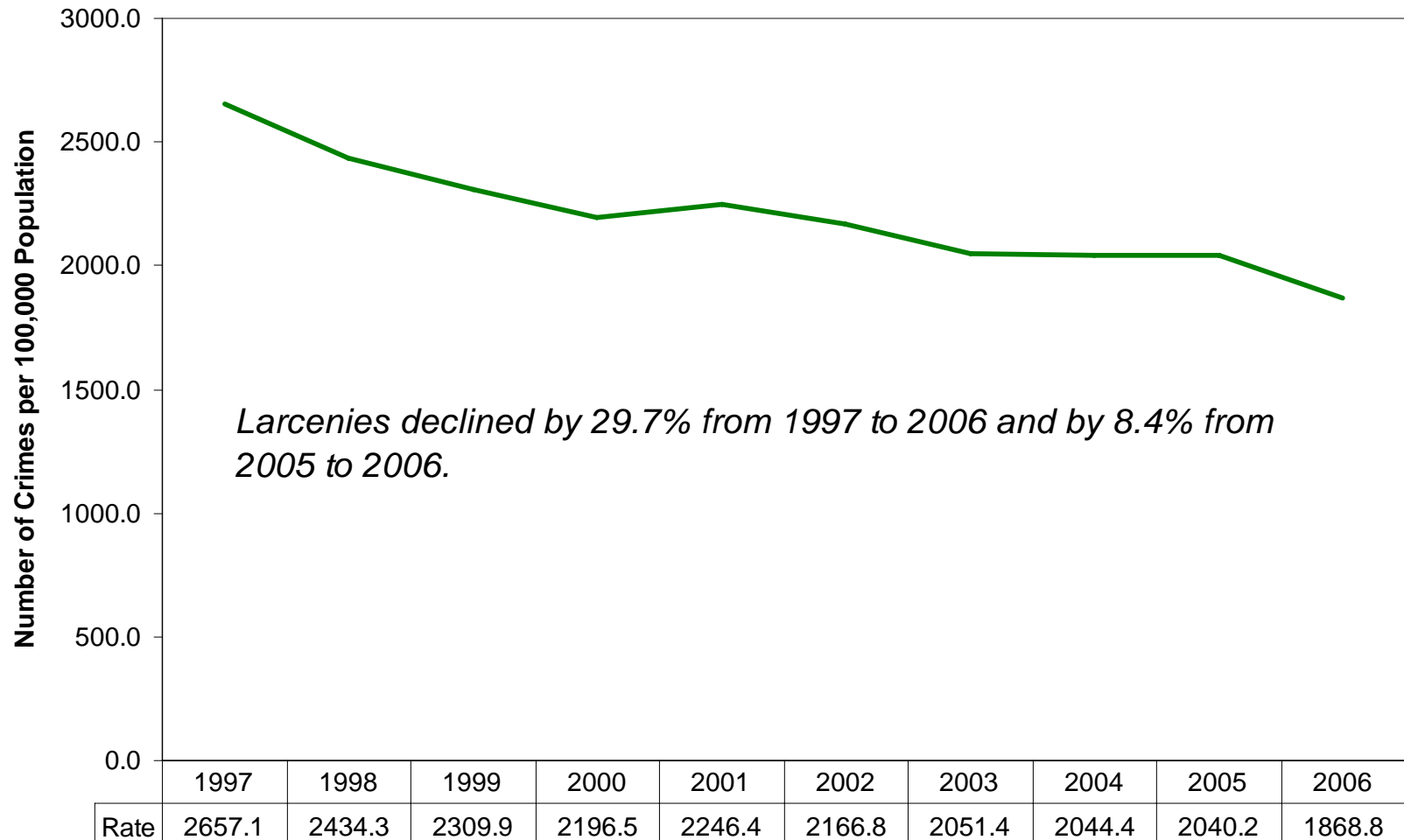
Virginia Burglary Rate

CY 1997 - 2006



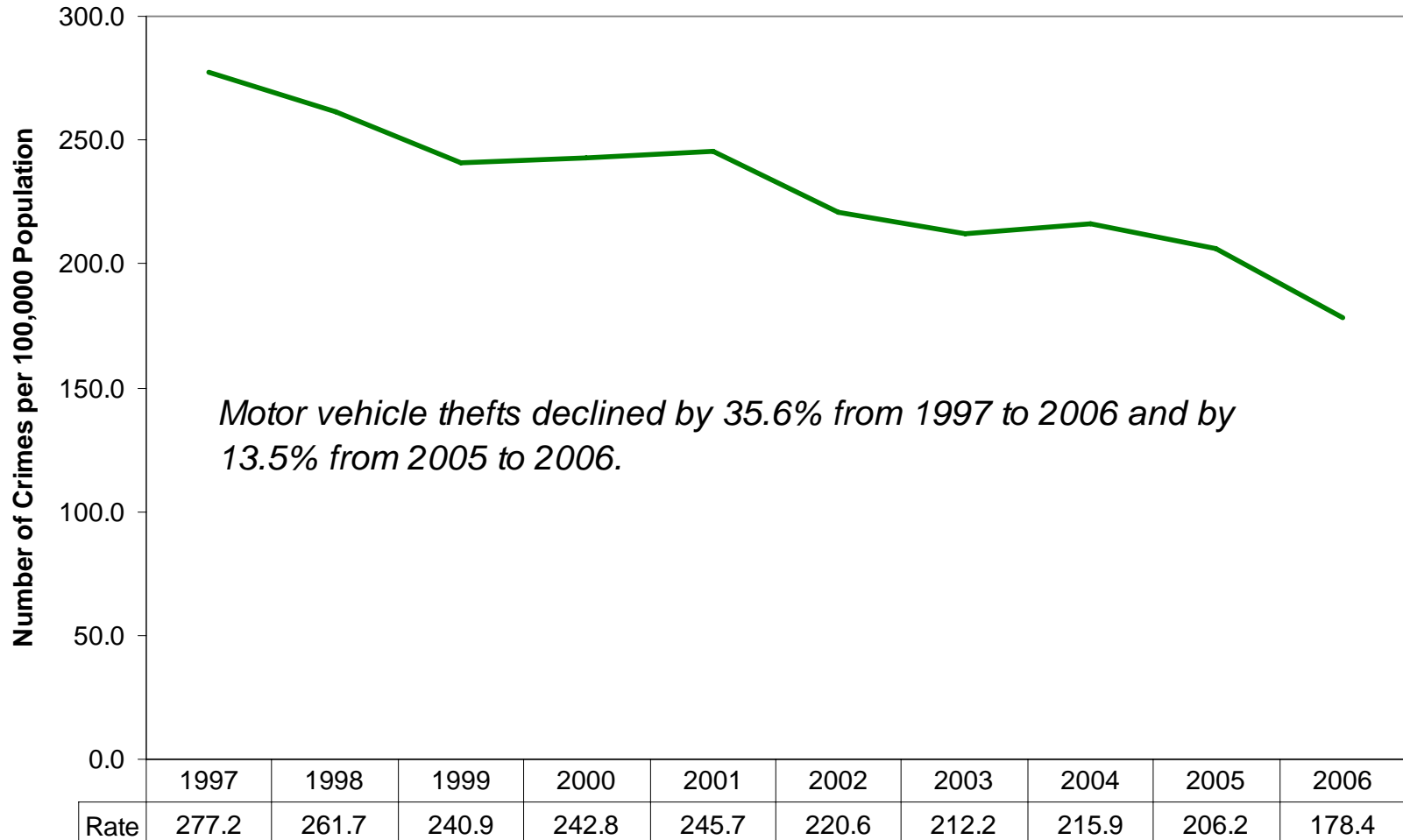
Virginia Larceny Rate

CY 1997- 2006



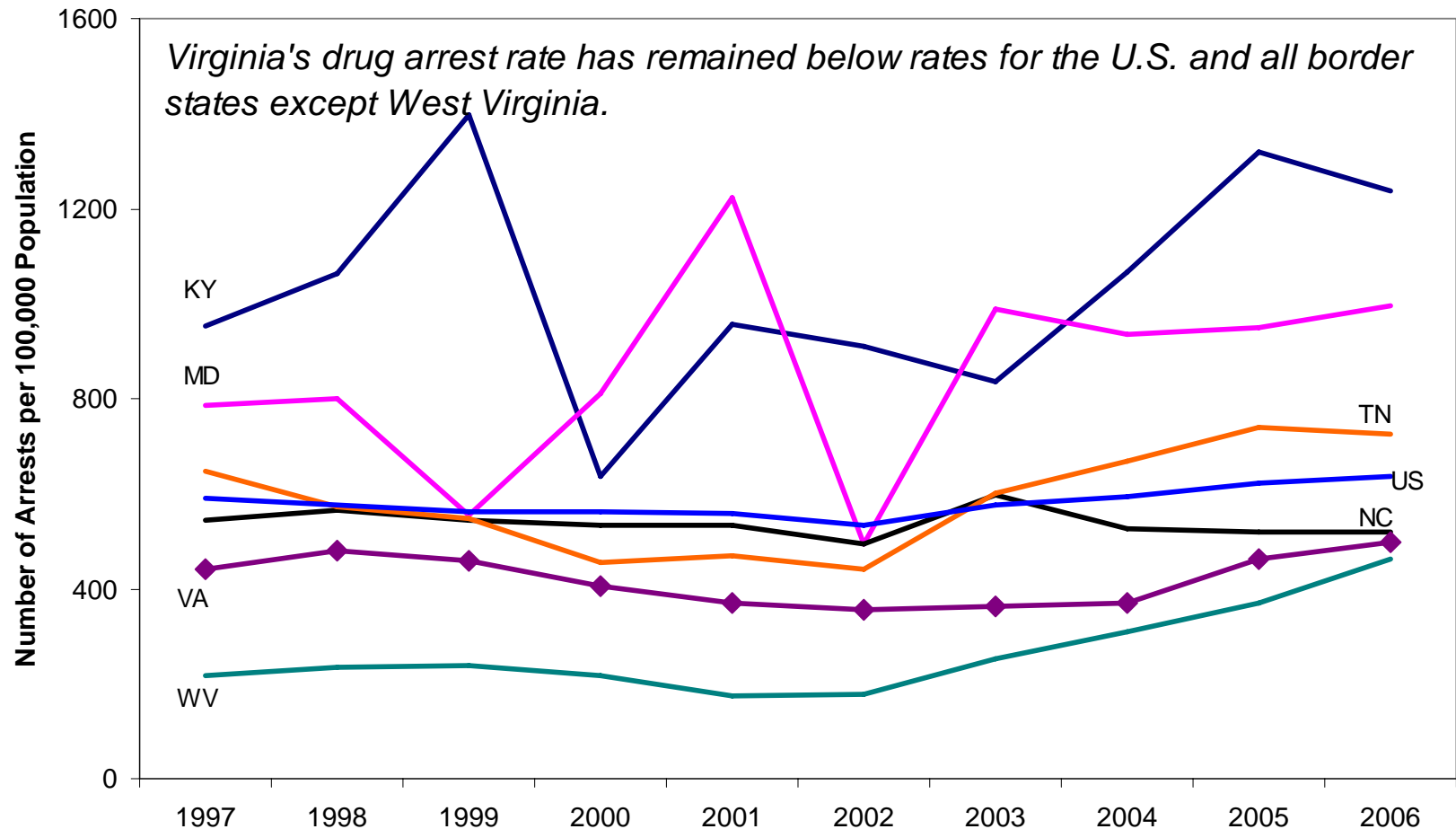
Virginia Motor Vehicle Theft Rate

CY 1997 - 2006



Drug Arrests in the Virginia Region

Drug Arrest Rates for VA and Border States CY 1997 - 2006

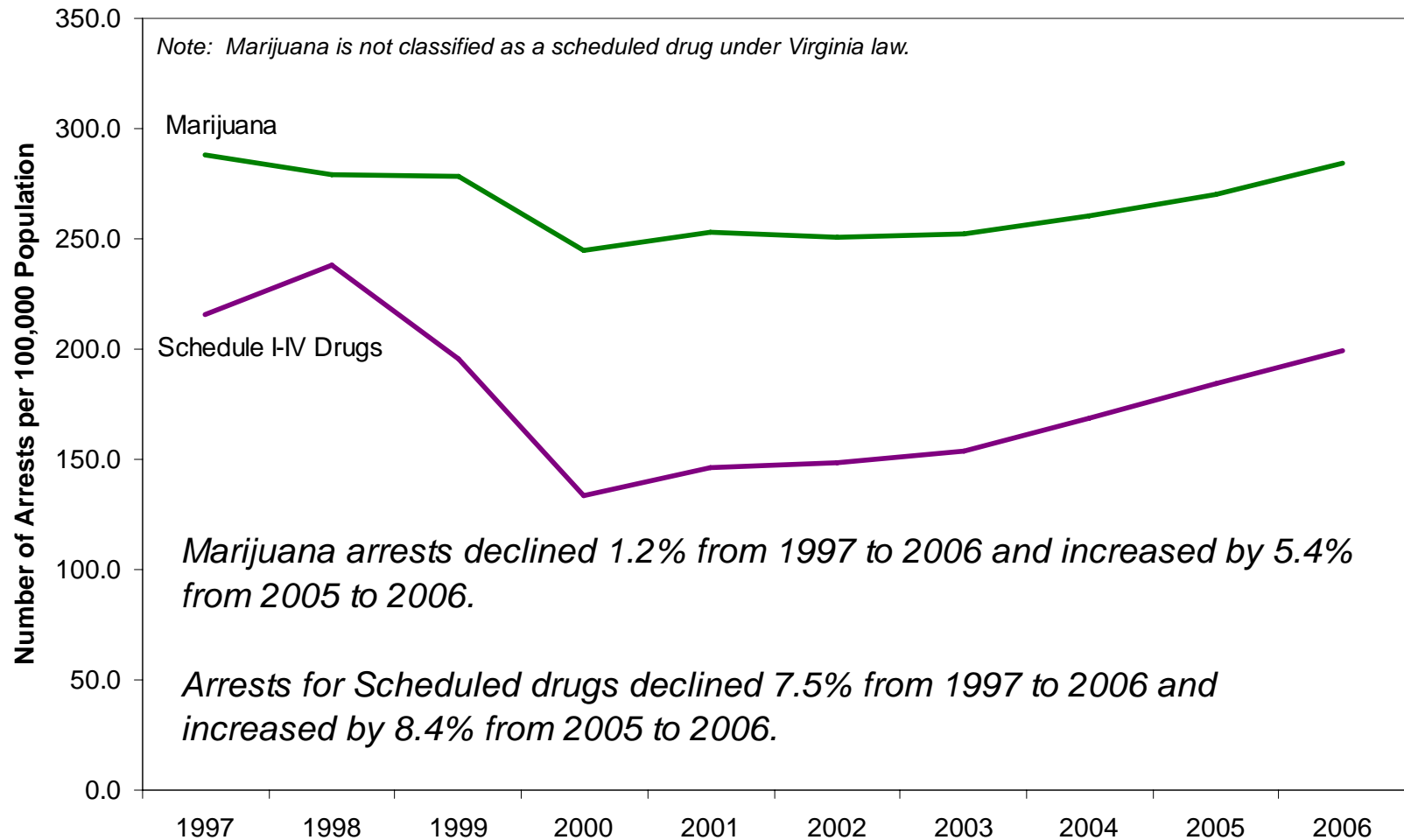


Drug arrest statistics can reflect law-enforcement anti-drug activities and are not an accurate indicator of drug prevalence.



Drug Arrests in Virginia

Virginia Drug Arrest Rates CY 1997 - 2006



Note: The large declines in drug arrest rates from 1999 to 2000 are related to the transition from Summary to IBR reporting.



Summary

- Virginia's violent and property crime rates continue to be below national rates and rates for most bordering states
- During the last decade violent and property crime rates in Virginia have declined by 18% and 29.6%, respectively
- The murder rate showed the largest drop from 2005 to 2006 among violent index crimes, primarily due to the unusually high murder rate in 2005
- Forcible rape was the only violent index crime rate to increase from 2005 to 2006
- The robbery rate was unchanged from 2005 to 2006



Summary (Continued)

- Burglary crimes had the largest increase among property index crimes and among all index crimes from 2005 to 2006
- Virginia's property crime rate was the lowest in 2006 when compared to the US and border states
- Virginia's drug arrest rate has remained below rates for most bordering states during the last decade



Data Sources and Caveats

1960-2006 historical crime rates and VA-US-Border State comparisons:
Crime In The United States, compiled annually by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

1997-1999 Virginia crime rates and drug arrest rates:
Crime In Virginia, compiled annually by Virginia Department of State Police (VSP)

2000-2006 Virginia crime rates and drug arrest rates:
Incident-Based Reporting (IBR) System electronic data files, administered by VSP, converted to Uniform Crime Reporting Summary format and adjusted for missing and underreported data by DCJS Research Center

Virginia crime rates reported by FBI may vary slightly from rates reported by DCJS due to differences in how each entity estimates missing and underreported data